# THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1865.

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

## RICHMOND.

GRANT'S DIPLOMACY RESUMED.

A Reconnoissance in Force on the Left.

The Expedition Secures a Foothold Across Hatcher's Run.

The Weather Fine and the Troops in Good Spirits.

DETAILS UP TO THE LATEST MOMENT

Capture and Escape of a Herald

OUR SPECIAL DESPATCHES.

CITY POINT.

Mr. S. Cadwallader's Despatches. CITY POINT, Feb. 5, 1885.

The enemy opened again last evening with one or two me hundred pounders on the right centre of the Ninth orps, but without effecting any damage. They probably suspected some movement from that quarter; or the may only have wished to contradict the rumors affor among us of the partial evacuation of Petersburg and the withdrawal of their heavy guns. Our batteries replied warmly for an hour, when the firing ceased on both

her warm, balmy, and inclined to be showery. Mercury at forty-four degrees in the shade at-nine o'c

CITY POINT, Feb. 6, 1865. Parts of the Second and Third corps, with Gregg's di on of cavalry, were moved around on the left toward Hatcher's run, for the purpose of reconncitering in force and destroying, if possible, the wagon trains and other ey creek station. No general engagement was ex-ed, so far as I can learn. None has certainly taken ond corps towards six o'clock last evening, in which probably lost between three and four hundred in ad and wounded. The ground taken up by our troops as they advanced has been continuously held, and the rebels repulsed in every assault they have made upon us.

amped last night on the ground from which the ere driven as we approached through the day, arowing up some hasty defences were fully able nal positions in the vicinity of the Weldon Rat

robel works on the Boydion plank road and at the ags of Hatcher's run have been materially strength-and multiplied since our reconnoiseance of the same

THE SECOND CORPS. Mr. Wm. J. Stark's Despatch. HEADQUARTERS, SECOND CORPS, IN THE FIELD, Feb. 5, 1865.

PROBES TO PREPARE FOR A MARCH. At a late hour yesterday afternoon the Second and Third divisions of this corps, the former commanded by Brigadier Major General Mott, of New Jersey, received orders to be ready to march at half-past six o'clock this

at mornings it was ever my good fortune to witness, started upon the march. Accompanying the troops were a certain number of batteries, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Hazard, Chief of Artillery, a portion

commanding the Second corps, moved down the Vaughr become very familiar to the troops, was the immediate point of destination. Arrived at the picket line, a bat alion of the Third Pennsylvania cavalry, under mand of Major Frank Hess, joined the column and took the advance. The rebel pickets were soon met and driven in without loss, but few shots being exchanged. THE COLUMN REACH HATCHER'S RUN-THE CROSSING.

On reaching the ford the enemy was found intren upon the opposite side, and the run rendered impassable to eavalry by obstructions placed in it. Captain Stille of the Third, made a gallant attempt to cross, be was unable to do so. The First brigade of the Third division was then ordered forward, and, arriving mear the ford the, advance regiment, the Ninety minth Pennsylvania, under Colonel Biles, formed in line of battle, and, charging across, soon cavalry passed over soon after, and pursued them some distance without material result. Meanwhile the First brigade, taking up a position on the hill beyond the ford threw up intrenchments preparatory to resisting any

While the events thus hastily recited were in progress, the Second division, under General Smyth, had taken a bypath to the left of the Vaughn road, leading to Armstrong's ford. On nearing the run at that poin the enemy's pickets were driven into their earthworksfrom which they were shortly driven by the Nineteenth Maine and the Tenth New York. While skirmishing with the enemy at this point, Second Lieutenant Wm. Tibbits, of the Nineteenth Massachusetts, was instantly killed by a Minie ball. Lieutenant Tibbits had recently been proes one of the bravest among the brave.

JUNCTION OF THE LINES. origade of the Third division on the left, the right of the Second division resting on the Third brigade of the Third division, under brevet Brigadier General McAllister, which connected with the pickets of the First division, which remained as they were previous to the move Earthworks were then thrown up and all necessar

At about two o'clock the enemy opened with artiller the firing was very wild, doing no damage, and soon From that time until five o'clock, save an occagional shot, all was "quiet along the lines."

At that hour a division of the enemy, which had bee econd brigade of the Second division and the Third rigade of the Third division, which continued without with that old familiar yell, he charged upon our oo structed works, and each time was met by an

nemy's, as we were covered by our works.

mpreys rode on \$10 the field soon after the
menced and remained until it was over, per-

Assistant Inspector General, him, but escaped uninjured.

Colonel Mathew Murphy, of the Sixty-ninth New York National Guard, commanding the Second brigade of the Second division, received a severe flesh wound about the knee while gallantly leading his men. Lieutenant Hugh G. MacTavish, Acting Assistant Adjutant General to Col. Murphy, was mortally wounded and has since died. Liout MacTavish was a resident of Glasgow, Souland, and had lataly come into possession of a considerable for-

Mounted Hompson, Sd Pennsylvania cavalry.

Wounded.

Lieutenant J. R. Graham, Co. C. 15th Connecticut;

Samuel Minnis, Co. E. 10th Mew York, in the thigh; H.

Lagardare, Co. E. 19th Massachusetta sightly; Sergeant

Daniel J. Murphy, Co. F. 19th Massachusetts, flesh

wound; Wm. Mills, Co. A. 19th Massachusetts, flesh

Foyar, Wm. H. Brown, 8th New York heavy artillery;

Charles Jordan, Co. B. 20th Massachusetts; Chas. Davis,

Co. A. 8th New Jersey; Samuel Stone, Co. A. 14th Connecticut; Sergeant G. K. Barrett, Co. K, 14th Connecticut; J. L. Bowland, Co. E, 10th New York.

THE FIFTH CORPS.

Mr. L. A. Hendrick's Despatch. HEADQUATERS, FUTH ARMY CORPS, }
IN THE FIELD, Jan. 5-6 P. M.

daylight this morning. It was not generally known what the movement was to be, the direction we were to take, or the object sought to be accomplished. An in-comprehensible brevity shrouded the orders. They stated this and nothing more—That General Ayres' divi-sion would take the lead; General Griffin's division folthat accompanying the infantry would be a certain numdays' rations on their persons, and that behind would be left only enough to guard the camp. As there most always is delay, so on this occasion it was a little after the appointed time before the column got in motion. The morning was delightfully clear, ther was nothing of the sharpness of winter in the air, though were hard and solid, and in many places a column. It seemed more like the comme seen the troops in better spirits, and that, too, notwith standing the abandonment of their comfortable log houses and the prospect before them of possibly unintermitt marches, unvarying privations, hardships and exposur marches, unvarying privations, hardshi and assurance doubly sure of the imp implacable and unyielding foe.

considerable expeditionary force comprised the entire moving party. Boldly pushing their way to the south of average party. Bothly pushing their way to the south of us were regiments of cavalry, while portions of the second corps were taking the Yeughn road on our right. For course lay slong the Halifax road. The whole exceedition, it now became evident further, was under command of Major General Warren. Many began here to surmise the destination and object of the expedition.

The developments thus far have thrown no certain light on these two points; and if they had it would be contraband to make them known. Those who do know the object—and they are very few—feel confident of its suc

of our column to Rowanitz creek, about twenty feet wide. Across it were visible the enemy's videttes. The old bridge spanning it had been destroyed, and it was too deep to be forded. Two trees were felled across the stream, and with boughs laid crosswise a temporary

CHARGE OF GWON'S BRIGADE Brevet Brigadier General Gwyn's brigade, the Third of the Second division, which led the advance, charged over this bridge. And it was a charge most splendidly and gallantly made. The opposite bank was steep, a belt of woods behind the edge of the creek, rifle pits looked frowningly from the height, and from behind them came the sharp crack of musketry. Unheeding these obstacles, and not knowing the force in readiness to beyond. They killed several of the enemy, captured twenty-two prisoners and lost but one killed and some half dozen wounded. The captured robels belong to the Sixteenth North Carolina regiment. I have not been able yet to obtain the names of our killed and wounded.

OASUALTIES. Among the wounded are Captain Kent, commanding Fourth Delaware regiment, and Sergeant Lucon, Com-pany C, One Hundred and Ninetieth Pennsylvania regi-ment. The former is only slightly wounded; the latter

will lose an arm.

COMPTRUCTION OF RRIDGES.

After the troops had crossed the stream two bridges were constructed by the engineer corps—one for the passage of the remaining infantry, and the other of the amount of the engineer corps. munition train and ambulances. There was no further

Montim's guerillas are said to have already made their appearance in our rear, to pounce upon any soming from

PROSPROTS OF A BATTLE.

I cannot opine where night will find us. There is can nonading on our right, and before the sun sinks behind the distant pince a great buttle may be fought.

THE WEATHER PAYORABLE. There is quite a change in the weather since m The wind has freshened, the air is chilly, but the troops are still in the best of spirits. There has been very little

THOS IN REGARD TO THE DRATE OF GENERAL GREGORY I must spare a minute before closing to make a correc-tion. In a late despatch I am made to announce the death of brevet Brigadier General Gregory, of the First division. My pen should have writtenbrevet Brigadier General Wheelock, of the Third division

Mr. Charles H. Hannam's Despatch. HEADQUARTERS, SLITH ARMY CORPS, NEAR PETERSRURG, Feb. 3, 1865.

INSPECTION OF CORPS HOSTITALS.

Major General Meade, accompanied by a number of English officers, visited the Sixth corps hospitals yesterday.

The interior arrangements and exterior decoration s of these hospitals have never been surpassed, and the

these hospitals have never been surpassed, and the Major Genera I commanding complimented the medical gentlemen in charge very highly on the apiendid condition in which their establishments were found.

Dr. S. A. Holman, Medical Director of the Sixth corps, has recently been breveted a Lieutenant Colonel.

DEATHER DENING THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

First Division—Corporal Edward Vallett, Co. D, 2d Rhode Island; Milton Fransher, Co. E, 82d Pennsylvania; William H. Averill, Co. H, 37th Massachusetts; Joshua Garton, Co. E, 10th New Jersey; John Southmaid, Co. E, 5th Wisconsin; T. Smith, Co. E, 4th New Jersey.

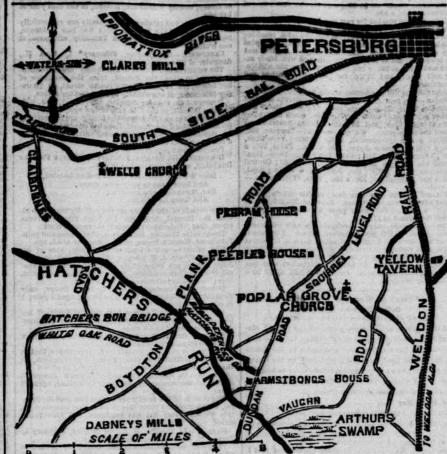
maid, Co. E, 5th Wisconsin; T. Smith, eo. E, eth New Jersey.

Scond Division—Corporal Joseph B. Grow, Co. E, 3d Vermont; James Cole, Co. A, 77th New York; Henry C. Libby, Co. B, 1st Maine; Henry Cramer, Co. K, 98th Pennsylvania; Joseph Titus, Co. K, 4th Vermont; Jacob Helrigle, Co. G, 61st Pennsylvania;

Third Division—Lieut, David H. Stone, Co. F, 9th New York; Corp. G L. Britton, Co. F, 9th New York; Josiah Liner, Co. D, 67th Pennsylvania; Jacob R. Wolcott, Co. B, 14th New Jersey; Nelson Valentine, Co. C, 9th New York; John Stine, Co. I, 6th Maryland; Frastus Griswold, Co. G, 9th New York; Anos Keims, Co. F, 6th Maryland, Joseph Bager, Co. G, 26th Ohio; Oliver Caswold, Co. E, 9th New York.

THE RECENT MOVEMENT.

Scene of the Operations on the 5th Inst. at Hatcher's Run.



THE TWENTY-FIFTH CORPS. Mr. John A. Brady's Despatch.

HEADQUARTERS, TWENTT-FIFTH ARMY CORPS, IN THE FIELD, Feb. 4, 1865. General Weitzel left corps headquarters again la It is understood that the General is to appear before the mittee on the War. During his absence General P

fourth and Twenty-fifth corps. It was quite unexpec pection of the Twenty-fifth corps flying hospita

Inspection of the Twenty-fifth corps flying hospital, under control of Surgeon Richardson, and the Twenty-fifth corps hospital, under Surgeon Stevenson, and in company with Surgeon Morony, Medical Director Twenty-fifth corps, visited and examined all the camps of that corps. He returns to Norfolk to-morrow.

A persurate setter on the Picket Line.

A white soldier—bounty jumper—endeavoring to desert to the enemy on the front of Shaw's brigade, Birney's division (colored troups), to-day, was shot dead by the colored pickets. This is the second case of the kind that has occurred, and it is hoped it will be the last.

THE PRESS DESPATCH.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, 1 Feb. 5, 1865.

accomplished will have been not only developed, but the degree of success resulting will also no doubt be known

eded by Gregg's cavalry, started on the road to R

roads at various points were picketed by cavalry, all of whom retreated as the column advanced.

which a bridge of considerable length had to be con

Major Hess, were sent out to make connection between them and the Second corps, the Second and Third divitions of which had gone out on the Vaughn road as far as Hatcher's run, to demonstrate in that direction. vision, of the Second corps, charged and took the line of rifle pits on the west side, losing but a few men. They

advanced about a mile across the run, driving the enemy's pickets before them. Here a strong line of breastworks was erected in a short time, making the position perfectly secure.

The Third Pennsylvania cavalry, after crossing a short

the Third Pennsylvania cavairy, after crossing a short distance south of the Vaughn road, advanced southward and soon met a small force in ambush, which poured a sharp volley into our men, killing two, it is said, and wounding besides a number of horses. A part of the Third division of the Second corps here came to the support of the Third Pennsylvania cavalry and drove the rebels off, and soon after a connection with the right of the Fifth corps was reported made. Up to this time very little fighting had taken place

the Pifth corps being scarcely engaged at all.

The Second division of the Second corps, under General Smyth, before reaching Hatcher's run, turned to the right and advanced in a northwesterly direction towards Armstrong's mill; but before going more than three-quarters of a mile the enemy was discovered in a strong po-

Gordon's being reported in the vicinity.

Here some of our men erected temporary breastworks on part of the line, while the balance had only time to throw up small French ride pits.

Skirmishing was going on all this time between the nemy and our sharpshooters.

About half-past four o'clock the rebel batteries opened

for the purpose of developing our position and strength; but no reply was made.

The rebels at length appeared, advancing in line of battle, with a strong skirmish line thrown out in ad-

vance. Our men were all ready for them, and as they charged in handsome style across the open field they received such a galling fire as to cause them to fall back in disorder, leaving many dead and wounded on the field. After repeating the attempt to dislodge our men, and failing each time, a rebel force was sent round to turn the right flank of the division. Colonel Murphy, of the Sixty-ninth New York, commanding the Second brigade, was posted here, with his right resting on a swamp, and was fully prepared for such a movement. Here, again, the rebels suffered severe loss, as they attempted to break our line. They were finally forced to give it up, and soon after dark firing ceased, the rebels falling back to their works.

over a hundred altogether, although the exact number not known.

Colonel Murphy was wounded in the knee, not severe ly, while giving orders to his men. His Assistant Adju tant General, Lieutenant McTavish, was mortally

Lieutenant Graham, of the Fourteenth Connecticu was wounded in the breast severely.

Licutenant Win. Tobitta, of the Nineteenth M.

name I did not learn, was captured, and, after being robbed, succeeded in escaping and reached our lines in

The enemy's loss must have been very heavy, as they repeatedly charged our lines, each time suffering severely. We took about twenty prisoners, some of whom report having received orders in the morning to keep a sharp okout, as it was believed our army was on the move. General Smyth deserves much praise for the manner in which he handled his division, being himself present on the field, watching closely the movements of the enemy and ever ready to meet and defeat them.

The weather to-night is clear and cold, and is just

## WILMINGTON.

Mr. Thomas M. Cook's Despatch. FORT FIREIR, Feb. 4, 1865.

proved, however, by General Terry in the preparation of report is a very simple, straightforward, business-like narrative of the heroic struggle of the little force that so gallantly overcame a seemingly impregnable position. The report, like its distinguished author, is remarkably from of leadens. free of jealousy. The General seems at a loss to speak in terms sufficiently eulogistic of the co-operative services of Admiral Porter and his naval fleet. General Amer receives very flattering mention, as do also Generals Paine and Abbott, Colonels Curtis, Pennypacker, Chief of General Grant's staff, chief engineer of the expedi

perfectly satisfied with letting us alone. At Fort Ander son they are working like beavers, extending an strengthening that work. Admiral Porter, on whom it must devolve to reduce that position, sits quietly on his flagship watching them, assuring his people that when the rebels have made the work sufficiently formithat in all his experience the Admiral has never yet moved against a fort that has withstood the attack. It is operation with land forces; but up to this time he has ably assisted in the capture of upwards of eight hundred are solely attributable to the prowess, energy and skill of the Admiral and his command.

the Admiral and his command.

Since our occupation of the mouth of the Cape Fear river the navy has been industriously employed in sounding and buoying out the channels, which, owing to the sandy beds of the rivers and bars, are constantly changing, and are now essentially different from the channels laid down in the Coast Survey charts. Buoys are now placed on all the bars and in the river as high up as Fort Anderson.

Fort Anderson.

The Admiral has issued the following notice to pilots, which will be of service to shipmasters generally:—

Disposition of Buoga at the Enterance to New Inlet, N. C.

VINTED STATEMENT SQUEDRON,

CAPE FRAN RIVER, N. C., Feb. 1, 1865.

The outer or sea buoy (a first class can, white and black perpendicular stripes,) is placed outside the bar in five fathors water.

The other of sea one; is placed outside the par in ordering perpendicular stripes,) is placed outside the par in ordering the southern edge of the channel, and should be passed on the port hand, coming in, close to.

To guide vessels crossing the "Rip" into Cape Fear river, a red non buoy is placed at the turn, off the south end of Pederal Point, and a red spar buoy on its eastern edge marking the best water across it.

DAVID D. PORTER, Rear Admiral, Commanding North Atlantic Squadron.

Ing the best water across ft.

Commanding North Atlantic Squadron.

Commanding North Atlantic Squadron.

It should be borne in mind by all parties interested that vessels destined for this port should not be freighted to a deeper draught than ten feet, though in very high tides and still water eleven feet may be brought over the bar by careful pilotage and good luck.

Another good work the Admiral is engaged in is replacing the lights in this vicinity. Some of the light-houses—the one on Smith'a Island, another near Smith-houses—the one on Smith'a Island, another near Smith-ville, and a third in the river above Smithville—are yet standing, and orders have been issued to have them lighted. Requisitions have also been sent to Washington for lenzes for the positions where lighthouses and beacons have been destroyed. These will be set up in temporary wooden towers as quickly as possible.

Contrabands and deserters continue to come within our lines in large numbers, bringing the usual stories of destitution, distress and discouragement.

PROFOGRAPHS OF REDET DESERTERS.

Apropos of General Terry's report. I had nearly forgotten to mention that Messrs. Gardner & Company, the army photographers, have been sent here by General Grant to make a series of views of Fort Fisfer, and the other works in this vicinity for the embilishment of the elicutenant General's report. Mr. W. H. Sallivan, for a long time with the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, is now here taking the negatives. The series will embrace thirty or forsy pictures. If permission shall be granted to multiply pictures. If permission shall be granted to multiply pictures from these negatives, Messrs. Gardner & Co., will find it a difficult task to satiefy the public demand for them. They will be the most interesting series the war has produced.

News from Cincinnati. CINCINNATI, Feb. 7, 1865. General Burbridge has issued an order disbanding the

State troops of Kentucky.
Thomas H. Whetstone, member of the Legislature from this county, was among the killed by the accident on the

Marietta Railroad.

An amateur performance took place at Pike's Opera
House last night for the benefit of soldiers' families. It was a grand affair. An immense audience was pr and the receipts amounted to between \$6,000 and \$7,000 The part of Hamlet was performed by Lieutenant Gover-

### THE PEACE MISSION

The Forthcoming Report of the President.

Return of the Rebel Commissioners to Richmond.

Particulars of the Passage of Our Lines.

The Rebels Evidently Not Expecting Their Early Return.

The Results of the Mission as Anticipated by the Rebels.

Mr. Seward Accused of Having a Design on the Peace of Rebel Society and the Morale of the Rebel Armies.

He Invites Negotiation in Order to Sow Distrust of the Rebel Officials.

The Government the Gainer by the Transaction.

Our Special Washington Despatch.

Washington, Feb. 7, 1865.

There appears to be an obstinate determination failure in all respects, except the firmness of the Presi-dent in maintaining the integrity of the Union as the only basis of any settlement. It will not be many hours before the report of the President, in answer to the reso-lution of the Senate, will set at rest all doubts as to

which is the correct view of the case. It is understood that the Secretary of State has also rritten to Mr. Adams, our Minister at London, a full statement of what transpired at the conference, and what nost scatterbrained and untrustworthy loungers in the with the tone of the gold gamblers, whose bull specula-tions are spoiled by the statement of the real facts in the ase. The latter have been fairly stated in the HERALD'S

for an armistice pending the negotiations; but during the sixteen hours of the conference all the collateral issues were considered, and the commissioners return therefore, only adjourned, but not by any means con the views and wishes of prominent leaders of the robel-lion which warrant the belief that peace is attainable

greater rigor than ever on the part of the federal authorities, as the best auxiliary to its speedy and successful termination. While willing, and even anxious, to avoid further bloodshed and desolation, the governmen is determined to abate in no degree the earnest prosecu tion of the war during the pending of peace n

Mr. S. Cadwallader's Despatch.

The rebel peace commissioners returned from their in Fortress Monroe, on night before last, and proceeded to Aiken's Landing early in the forenoon in charge of Lieut. Col. Babcock, of General Grant's staff. They were then turned over to Lieut. Col. Mulford, to be conveyed by

Very little is known concerning their reception by the Major Eckart came in advance from Washington with the nformation that the President and Secretary Seward would meet them at Fortress Monroe. They did so arrive during the night, after Messra Stephens, Hunter, and Campbell reached there. A tug took the party aboard the Presidential boat about ten o'clock A. M. Mr. Seward greeted the party cordially and introduced those who were unacquainted with the President. Their recep-tion was courteous and kindly, and their stay on the boat protracted till late in the afternoon. So far as could out, conducted in ordinary conversational style, inter-larded with reminescences, and entirely free from Their leave taking was attended with the ordinary civilities between gentlemen, and the whole affair appeared to

pass off pleasantly, if not satisfactorily.

The commissioners expressed themselves surprised at
the unassuming deportment of General Grant, and frequently spoke of his courteous affability.

Mr. William H. Merriam's Despatch. GENERAL ORD'S HEADQUARTERS, }
Feb. 4—Evening.

After patient investigation I am enabled to send you some interesting particulars concerning the return move-ments of the peace commissioners in this vicinity, on their way to report progress to Mr. Davis, at Richmond. Researches upon this point have been all the more difficult, owing to the incognito character of all their proceed-ings, so far as the outside world and the army are concerned, compelling personal watchfulness in order to obtain the facts. Everybody who would seem entitled, by virtue of high official position, to know all about the time and the place relating to them and their movenents, has felt constrained to signify an especial reticence and to look wise, very likely without knowing himself any more than I did previous to setting out to gather the following facts:—

After the close of the interview between the Prosident

of the United States, Mr. Secretary Seward and the rebel commissioners, the latter were sent to the headquarters of Lieutenant General Grant, at City Point, in the flagship Molly Martin, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Babcock, of the General's staff of the armies of the United States. After a brief interview with the Lieutenant General they were forwarded by him to Varina, where they were received and taken charge of by Colonel John E. Mulford, agent of the United States for exchange, who was charged with the duty of transferring the com missioners f. om the Union to the rebel lines. After a short conversation between Col. Mulford and Col. Robert Ould, rebel agent for exchange, the gentlemen were received on the United States flag of truce steamer New York, to await the arrival of the rebel steamer that was to bear them up the James under the customary flag for the cessation of hostilities. During their stay upon the New York, where they occupied the apartments of Colonel Mulford, by whom I bear they were socially and sumptoously treated, the commissioners received a call from Major General E. O. C. Ord, commanding the Department of Virginia and the Army of the James, who remained aboard little more than half an hour, and who proffered them every facility and courtesy within his per-sonal and official reach. After waiting several hours for the appearance of Colonel Ould's truce best,
Colonel Mulford determined to escort them through
our lines by land. Acting upon this determination, he
proceeded with the party, under flag of truce, to Cha-

delay on the army lines, the commissioners were transferred to the care and attention of Commander Mitchell, of the rebel Navy, commanding the rebel flottle in the James river. Here, of course, our authorities lost night

the point whence the commis Richmond, is a place of some historical impo-is one of the ancient plantations on the Ja situated near Dutch Gap, and embraces twenty-three hundred acres of arable land. It was the former Patrick Henry, used to charm and delight the racy of the proud Old Don and vigorous elequence. The spot will be chiefly memo-rable in the history of the present conflict as the site of the chief point where Colonel Mulford has from time to time negotiated the exchange of prisoners of war since

upon their return were in the best of spirits, and entered fully and restrictly into the genuine and laurious hospitality of the distinguished Union officer delegated by the President to entertain them. They conversed upon topics other than the absorbing one with considerable freedom—Mr. Vice President Stephens, I believe, venturing the hope that great good might come of the stempt just ended to pacify the belligerent sections. Great admiration was unanimously expressed by the lieutenant General Grant, whose tr of the most exalted character. Their manners upon the ingly quiet and unpretending, and their dep

phetic extract from the speech of the rebei Vice President in the Georgia State Convention urging that the

STORIES OF THE PEACE MISSION PROM NORTHERN

PAPERS.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Feb. 4.]

[From the Richmond Examiner, Feb. 4.]

It must not be forgotten that while Messra. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell are within the enemy's lines, the enemy has a monopoly of all public news coming to us regarding those "commissioners," their proceedings, proposals, admissions and discourses. That is to say, the commissioners are, during the whole time, a piece of property in the hands of the Washington government, which our enemies are ingelieus enough to exploit. Washington correspondents of New York papers, and other enterprising manufacturers of news, will of course other enterprising manufacturers of news. by that time—both army and people—usery land; lead, entirely distracted from the essential business military defence, just on the eve of a desperate paign—every tate suspecting an adjoining State, or man suspecting his neighbor of a design to submit to best terms that can be obtained, and desert the case the country. Sometimes the startling development be sent to us through Grant's picket lines in the direct way; sometimes in the Washington letters way; sometimes in the Washington letters. "Senatobia," wherever that is; and again will be a conveyed and communicated in the strictest conf by intelligent ladies or gentlemen, coming acre

he permitted Mr. Blair to come into our lines without credentials to treat, only with facilities to intrigue, and to give unauthorized hints and promises, and vague invitations; all ending in the appointment of three influential confederate gentiemen, to go and place themselves in the enemy's hands and make themselves the centre and the enemy's hands and make themselves the centre and the enemy's hands and make themselves the centre and the enemy's hands and make themselves the centre and the enemy's hands and make themselves the centre and the centre of the properties of a vast system of cunningly devised falsehood. Of course the President has nobody but himself to blame if he is now represented by Blair as having sent commission. The most widely circulated newspapes in all the North says expressly that Blair made her possible to the course of such a statement being believed, even for a few days, by citizens and by solders; and if any evil result from it, who is to blame? The man who admitted a scheming Yankee to creep and provi about lore, and to seduce him into this dark and doubtful way of informatic onferences. Yankees are to be dealt with 'my the card,' to be conversed with by the way of written do uments, to be held to the 'there a rripto,' and even then they will generally cheat you.

Even before they had any intelligence in the North that our three commissioners were to go to Washington, or had even been named, the stirring and startling new manufactured had already commenced. The first specimen came round to us by way of Mobile, and was to the effect that Lincoln had, on his side, named three commissioners (unofficial of course—that is to say three private gentlemen) to meet our three unofficial friends, and to confer with them; one of the three on the Northern side being Franklin Pierce, a man

#### THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

ment by the Maine Legislature.

AUJESTA, Me., Feb. 7, 1865. amendment abolishing slavery, and a salute of one hun dred guns was fired in honor of the event.

The New Jersey Legislature and the

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 7, 1866. Governor Parker to-day sent a message to both houses enclosing a copy of the joint resolution passed by Con gress in regard to the constitutional amendment to abol-

ah slavery.

In the Senate Mr. Scovel moved that the Committee on Federal Relations report on it on Thursday. Senators Chandler, Buckley and Randolph opposed immediate ac-

Mr. Scovel replied, charging that the power which ruled New Jersey wanted delay, promising three votes for a republican Senator and for this amendment. He could not lend himself to such a bargain. It would not

The motion was lost, Senators Jenkins and Kennedy